



*National Foundation*

SUITE 300 1700 K STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.



for **RESEARCH** in *Ulcerative Colitis*

Office of the President  
4500 Lyndale Avenue North  
Minneapolis 12, Minnesota

JAN 4 1965

December 28, 1964

Dr. Michael E. De Bakey, Chairman  
Department of Surgery  
Baylor University College of Medicine  
Houston, Texas

Dear Dr. De Bakey:

I've just finished reading - with pleasure and a growing sense of excitement - the excellent "Program" worked out by your Presidential Commission. It is a remarkable job. I hope it produces decisive results.

Remembering the pleasure I had working with you on the legislation for the National Library of Medicine and the great sense of satisfaction I've had since it came into being, I'm very sorry to have been travelling when the announcement of the Commission was made. I should have liked to offer to help.

I write now on the assumption that the Heart and Cancer Association and other groups which worked with you will be creating a combined force to work for the legislative proposals contained in the "Program". Certainly this is a most immediately necessary step.

If such a group is organized and if, on the basis of our mutual experience, you believe me qualified, I should be happy to consider serving with such a group in any of several capacities, but particularly in connection with liaison with the House, the Senate and the White House.

I've retired from the Senate and agreed to serve this fine but woefully underfinanced little Foundation as executive director through 1964. I've reorganized it; changed its name to the Digestive Disease Foundation and started it on its way. So I'll be free come January.

On the chance that you'll be interested, I'm enclosing some biographical data.

De Bakey, Dr. Michael E.

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Turning again to the Library, I want you to know that I believe Marty Cummings a wonderful director. He's keen, forceful, intelligent and knowledgeable. A distinct improvement over the good Colonel. I hope we can get him five million for extra mural activities next year. I'm sure you'll be trying. I'll be doing my best with John Fogarty.

With best wishes for the holiday season and warm regards,

Sincerely,

*B:11*  
William G. Reidy  
Executive Director

Enclosure